



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NORTHERN ARIZ. WOMAN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON ON PERJURY CHARGES

She lied to federal agents investigating a double homicide

PHOENIX – Mecheryl Begay, 23, of Lower Greasewood, Ariz., was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Fredrick J. Martone to two and a half years in federal prison for lying to the FBI and a grand jury about her whereabouts in the course of an investigation into a double homicide in 2002. A federal jury found Begay guilty during a trial in May 2007.

During the trial, the evidence proved that Begay lied to FBI agents and to a federal grand jury about her whereabouts on the night of March 27 and early morning hours of March 28, 2002. Begay claimed that she had been home asleep on that night but in reality she had been at a party with several other individuals and had driven around the Greasewood area after the party. She and her group then met up with two Ganado High School students just a short time before the two students were shot and killed. The defendant lied to the FBI just hours after the victims were found and she lied to the grand jury during her testimony two years later. The defendant's brother, Kendrick Begay, was charged in June 2006 with the murders and is awaiting trial.

The investigation was conducted by the Flagstaff, Ariz. office of Federal Bureau of Investigation, which was aided by the Navajo Department of Public Safety, Criminal Investigations. The sentencing occurred on Monday, December 3, 2007. The prosecution was handled by Ann Birmingham Scheel and Kimberly Hare, Assistant U.S. Attorneys, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-453-PCT-FJM
RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-246(Begay)

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